

and it's still not enough to cover everything. Now with that money gone, I should be able to qualify for food stamps. I only have the most basic bills, and I don't have any credit card debt or loans. How much longer do we have to wait for a livable wage?

The people whom I have met who are working minimum wage or close to minimum wage, \$8-, \$9-, \$10-an-hour jobs, are people who often hold two jobs. They are working hard. They have so little to show for it. For somebody who is willing to work as most people in this country do, they should have a livable wage.

We know there are many more stories such as Tom's that all of us will hear if we go out in our States and listen. Pope Francis I exhorted his parish priests to go out and "smell like the flock." The illusion of the Old and New Testaments and sheep and shepherds was obviously what he was referring to, but he was also referring to the fact of how important it is for people in his church, in the Roman Catholic Church, the priests, the people who minister to people, should understand how people live.

It is an important admonition for politicians too. I think more of my colleagues should get out of Washington and "smell like the flock" as Pope Francis said, meet people trying to make a go of it on a minimum wage, put food on their table to support their families, to put a little aside maybe for retirement someday; all of those are so important.

When we are seeing people working harder and harder, and, frankly, getting paid less and less money for it because of the decline of the buying power of the minimum wage, we know it is time for change.

I ask my colleagues to support the Fair Minimum Wage Act. It will pull millions of people out of poverty. It will help our economy because it will put money in people's pockets that they will immediately spend, generating other economic activity and creating jobs.

I yield the floor.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. BROWN. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, today as we convene, I call to the Senate's attention today's commemoration of the Holocaust. The Holocaust was the systematic genocide of 6 million Jews and countless others, carried out by Adolf Hitler and his minions.

Today is Holocaust Remembrance Day. It is a reminder that we must continue to fight against genocide, racism, hatred, and violence. Yet with Holo-

caust Remembrance Day also comes the hope provided us by the survivors.

I think of my friend the late Tom Lantos, a Congressman from California. Tom was a Hungarian Jew and a survivor of the Holocaust—and a survivor he was. I had the good fortune of traveling to Hungary and meeting with him there, and he showed us a number of places where he escaped from the Nazis. It was a remarkable story, and he was a remarkable man.

He once said: "I like to work hard to make this a better country, to provide a just government for our people and make sure we have learned from the past." Tom Lantos' statement should apply to all of us.

Today we remember those who were lost, honor those who survived, and share our grief with the families who suffered the tragedy of Nazi Germany during the Holocaust.

Let us remember the words of Congressman Lantos who, in spite of all he suffered, had great hope and faith that we would work to stop genocide in the future.

IATSE LOCAL 720 75TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to honor and recognize the 75th anniversary for the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, Moving Picture Technicians, Artists and Allied Crafts, IATSE, Local 720. Local 720 was chartered on February 23, 1939, by the nine original members—Mickey Burton, Barney Deussen, Clyde Gilbert, Harry Beuford, Arden Lusch, Rudy Rear, Harry Keller, Wally Roper, and Howard Folley. Since that time, because of the hard work and dedicated service of its founding members and their predecessors, it has grown to represent over 2,500 professionals in the entertainment industry, performing over 50,000 dispatches and receiving \$60 million in gross wages in the last year alone.

The union may have started with nine stagehands, but today it represents some of the most highly trained and skilled technicians in the country, including theatrical carpenters, electricians, riggers, audio/video technicians, video projectionists, camera operators, grips, gaffers, trade show technicians, audio engineers, stitchers, hairstylists, and make-up artists. It is the hard work and passion of these members that helped make Las Vegas the Entertainment Capital of the World.

For 75 years Local 720 has fought for the rights of Nevadan workers. I applaud and celebrate with IATSE Local 720 on their 75th anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO MARKO MEDVED

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, it has come to my attention that one of our finest Civil Engineer Corps officers, CAPT Marko Medved, who is the officer in charge of Construction, Marine

Corps Installations West, has announced his retirement from the U.S. Navy.

Captain Medved was born and raised in St. Paul, MN. He and his wife Maria Nagy, reside in San Diego, CA, with their children Jack, 15, and Carly, 13,

I ask unanimous consent that his biography be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

CAPTAIN MARKO MEDVED, P.E., CIVIL ENGINEER CORPS, UNITED STATES NAVY
OFFICER IN CHARGE OF CONSTRUCTION MARINE CORPS INSTALLATIONS WEST

CAPT Medved's first duty assignment was onboard USS *Leftwich* (DD 984), home ported in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii where he served as the Damage Control Officer, Missile Officer and Fire Control Officer. He deployed with *Leftwich* to serve in Desert Storm and Desert Shield in 1989-1990 and returned again to the Persian Gulf in 1992-1993.

CAPT Medved transferred to the Civil Engineer Corps (CEC) in the summer of 1993. He reported to his first CEC assignment at Resident Officer-in-Charge of Construction, Puerto Rico Area, in January 1994. Here he managed construction contracts in the U.S. Virgin Islands and at Naval Station Roosevelt Roads. CAPT Medved was then reassigned to the Public Works Department (PWD) where he directed the Technical Management Division, then Customer Service for the Base Operating Support Contract. In October of 1997, CAPT Medved joined the "Professionals" of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion Five, leading a Detachment for Training to assist in disaster recovery in Sao Miguel, Azores, Portugal. He later deployed to Okinawa as Charlie Company Commander and Air Detachment Commander. Upon completion of graduate school in August 2000, he reported to the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Fleet Readiness and Logistics) staff to serve as Action Officer for Range Planning and Base Realignment and Closure. During the 107th Congress, CAPT Medved served as a Legislative Fellow for Senator Thad Cochran of Mississippi, working on Defense Appropriations. He then served as the Public Works Officer at Naval District Washington, Indian Head, Maryland—the Center for Naval Energetics, until June 2005. Shifting coasts, CAPT Medved lead the Coastal Integrated Process Team at NAVFAC Southwest, supporting bases in San Diego, Ventura County and Monterey. In his next assignment as the Assistant Regional Engineer for Navy Region Southwest, he led the facilities programs for naval bases and reserve centers across six states. Deploying as an Individual Augment, he served as the Public Works Officer for Al Asad Air Base, Iraq, where he supported Marine and Army Division Commanders in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

CAPT Medved graduated with distinction from Annapolis with a Bachelor of Science degree in Ocean Engineering in May 1989. He later attended postgraduate school at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, earning a Master of Science degree in Construction Engineering and Management in August 2000. In the summer of 2011, he completed the Advanced Management Program at the Duke Fuqua School of Business. He holds qualifications in Seabee Combat Warfare and Surface Warfare, is a member of the Acquisition Professional Community, and is a registered Professional Engineer in Virginia. CAPT Medved's awards include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal (three awards), Navy Commendation Medal (three awards), Navy Achievement Medal (three awards), and the Combat Action Ribbon.

REMEMBERING THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the 99th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide—a tragedy that has left a dark stain on the collective conscience of the world.

Between 1915 and 1923, more than 1.5 million Armenians were marched to their deaths in the deserts of the Middle East, murdered in concentration camps, drowned at sea, and forced to endure unimaginable acts of brutality at the hands of the Ottoman Empire.

The Armenian Genocide—along with the Holocaust is one of the most studied cases of genocide in history. Countless experts have documented the atrocities that occurred, compiling an overwhelming body of historical evidence on the Armenian Genocide.

However, successive U.S. administrations have refused to call the deliberate massacre of the Armenians by its rightful name, continuing only to refer to it as an annihilation, massacre, or murder.

It has been nearly a century since the Armenian Genocide began and each day that goes by without full acknowledgement by the United States prolongs the pain felt by the descendants of the victims, as well as the entire Armenian community.

For years, I have been urging both Democratic and Republican administrations to finally acknowledge the Armenian Genocide for what it was—genocide. I do so again today.

The United States has often led the international community in speaking out against violence and suffering wherever it occurs. But tragically, our Nation is on the wrong side of history when it comes to the Armenian Genocide. I hope that this year we right this terrible wrong once and for all.

It is time for the United States to join the list of countries from Argentina to France as well as 43 U.S. States that have unequivocally affirmed the Armenian Genocide.

Genocide is only possible when people avert their eyes. Any effort to deal with genocide—whether past, present or future—must begin with the truth.

So this April 24, as we pause to remember the victims of the Armenian Genocide and to celebrate the many contributions Armenian Americans have made to our great nation, I hope that the United States will finally and firmly stand on the right side of history and call the tragedy of 1915–1923 by its rightful name.

TRIBUTE TO H. SAWIN MILLETT

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, on May 30, H. Sawin Millett will step down as commissioner of the Maine Department of Administrative and Financial Services, one of many positions he has held during a remarkable career of more than 55 years of dedicated service at all levels of government. I rise today to join the people of Maine in thanking

him for his many contributions as he retires to his family, his farm, and his beloved hometown of Waterford, ME.

Sawin has served five Maine Governors—Republican, Democratic, and Independent—and in the cabinets of four. His energy, expertise, and commitment to responsible and accountable government have been applied to such diverse areas as education, finance, and mental health services.

Sawin served six terms in the Maine legislature and was lead House Republican on the Appropriations Committee during the last three. His institutional knowledge and keen understanding of the State budget process and fiscal operations has been invaluable to our State. Building on his early career as a teacher, coach, and principal, he was the first executive director of the Maine School Management Association and an assistant professor at the University of Southern Maine.

It is fitting that Sawin's life in public service began at the local level, serving as selectmen in the towns of Dixmont and Waterford, and as a town meeting moderator.

The appreciation of Sawin's service crosses party lines. When the announcement of his retirement was made, both sides of the aisle were united in praise for this generous mentor and effective leader who has always been devoted to the people of Maine.

I have had the privilege of knowing Sawin for many years. We served together in the cabinet of Gov. John McKernan, and I was fortunate to have him on my State staff during my first term in the Senate. I also have had the pleasure of knowing his wonderful wife Barbara, who has been a strong and loving partner for more than 57 years. On behalf of the people of Maine, I wish them health and happiness in the years to come.

LET FREEDOM RACE CELEBRATION

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I rise to thank the great people at the Charlotte Motor Speedway for their hard work in honoring our Nation's military and veterans' families. This Memorial Day Weekend, the 55th Let Freedom Race Celebration at CMS will bring together more than 100,000 military guests to celebrate our military heroes and honor their service. This Memorial Day tradition will, once again, showcase our military strength by demonstrating patriotic unity and pride for those who served in our Armed Forces to protect us.

Over the 55 years of the Memorial Day weekend celebration at Charlotte Motor Speedway, millions of race fans have joined together to celebrate America's military heroes and honor their service. Generations of men and women have worn their Nation's uniform with pride and put their lives on the line to protect and preserve our most precious commodity: freedom. Many of them paid the ultimate price

and should always be remembered for their sacrifice. I commend all those at Charlotte Motor Speedway, and the wider racing community, for their continuing support of our men and women in uniform.

Please join me in recognizing those at the Charlotte Motor Speedway for their efforts in promoting the Let Freedom Race Celebration each May.

COLUMBUS STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, today I wish to honor Columbus State Community College in recognition of its 50th anniversary and the opportunities it has provided to students throughout Ohio. On September 30, 1963, Columbus State was founded in the basement of Central High School in Columbus, OH. Since its inception, Columbus State has grown tremendously by expanding its enrollment and academic offerings from an initial 67 students to more than 25,000 students. The diverse student body has come from more than 130 countries and all of Ohio's 88 counties.

The mission of Columbus State is "to educate and inspire, providing [its] students with the opportunity to achieve their goals." This mission is vital to the Columbus community. Throughout its 50 years, Columbus State has provided exemplary educational opportunities through more than 200-plus degree and certificate programs. It has awarded nearly 50,000 degrees and has a nearly \$1 billion annual impact on the local economy. The school also provides several transfer options and continuing education opportunities to students.

I have visited Columbus State and seen firsthand the excellent education and training it provides to students, including the resources available through the Center for Workforce Development. The center collaborates with companies in the Columbus region to address workforce needs through innovative approaches to education and customized training. It is helping to ensure that students are prepared with the skills they need for the jobs of the 21st century.

I am pleased to honor Columbus State Community College and congratulate everyone who was a part of making its first 50 years a success.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO IVÓN PADILLA-RODRÍGUEZ

• Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Ivón Padilla-Rodríguez, an honors program student at the University of Nevada, Reno.

Ms. Padilla-Rodríguez was selected for a prestigious 2014 Harry S. Truman Scholarship from among the Nation's most competitive applicants. The award is given annually for those of demonstrated leadership and public